STATE OF INDIANA )
COUNTY OF MARION )

AVC NO. 91 AVC 040

IN RE: NICK PALERMO,

DIANE PALERMO,

FRANK PALERMO, individually and doing business as Frank Palermo Auto, and

TOM HARZ, individually and doing buisness as Three Rivers Auto Paint and Supply,

Respondents.

FILED

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## ASSURANCE OF VOLUNTARY COMPLIANCE

Comes now the State of Indiana, by Linley E. Pearson,
Attorney General of Indiana, and Steven A. Taterka, Deputy
Attorney General, and the Respondents, Nick Palermo, Diane
Palermo, Frank Palermo, individually and doing business as Frank
Palermo Auto, and Tom Harz, individually and doing business as
Three Rivers Auto Paint and Supply, and pursuant to
IC 24-5-0.5-7(a) hereby enter into an Assurance of Voluntary
Compliance (Assurance).

It is acknowledged that violation of this Assurance constitutes <u>prima</u> <u>facie</u> evidence of a deceptive act as defined by IC 24-5-0.5-3. This Assurance is entered into without any

adjudication of any issue of fact or law herein and upon consent of the parties thereto.

## It is hereby agreed that:

- 1. Respondent, Nick Palermo, is an individual having his principal residence in Allen County at 1811 Forest Park Boulevard, Fort Wayne, Indiana 46805.
- 2. Respondent, Diane Palermo, is an individual having her principle residence in Allen County at 5527 Lionel Drive, Fort Wayne, Indiana 46815.
- 3. Respondent, Frank Palermo, is an individual doing business as Frank Palermo Auto having his principle place of business in Allen County at 3711 North Wells, Fort Wayne, Indiana 46808.
- 4. Respondent, Tom Harz, is an individual doing business as Three Rivers Auto Paint and Supply having his principle place of business in Allen County at 3814 North Wells, Fort Wayne, Indiana 46808.
- 5. Respondents acknowledge and admit responsibility and liability for acts, practices and methods employed by themselves, their employees, agents and representatives acting within the course and scope of their employment.
- 6. Respondents acknowledge the jurisdiction of the Consumer Protection Division of the Office of Attorney General to investigate matters hereinafter described, pursuant to the authority of IC 4-6-9-4, IC 9-1-3.6-17 and IC 24-5-0.5-7.

- 7. Respondents, in soliciting and/or contracting with consumers, agree to refrain and shall not make, cause to be made, or permit to be made, expressly or by implication, any representation, orally or in writing, as to the characteristics and/or benefits relating to the subject of consumer transactions unless Respondents actually intend to provide and, in fact, provide the subject of consumer transactions as represented.
- 8. Respondents, in soliciting and/or contracting with consumers, agree to refrain and shall not make, cause to be made or permit to be made, expressly or by implication, any representation, orally or in writing, that they have sponsorship, approval, or affiliation in consumer transactions that they do not have, and which they know or should reasonably know they do not have. In compliance with this paragraph, Respondents agree to disclose, verbally, in advertising and in written purchase orders, that any vehicles available for sale are being sold on behalf of a dealer if, in fact, such vehicles were procured by, or on behalf of, either dealer Respondent.
- 9. Respondents, in soliciting and/or contracting with consumers, agree to refrain and shall not make, cause to be made or permit to be made, expressly or by implication, any representation, orally or in writing, that the subject of a consumer transaction is of a particular standard, quality, grade, style, or model, if it is not and if Respondents know or should reasonably know that it is not.

- 10. Respondents, in selling, exchanging or transfering a rebuilt vehicle, agree to disclose in writing to the purchaser, customer, or transferee, the fact that the vehicle is a rebuilt vehicle, if the Respondents know or should reasonably know that the vehicle is a rebuilt vehicle, as required by IC 9-1-3.6-15.
- 11. Respondents agree to provide restitution in the sum of Two Thousand Five Hundred dollars (\$2,500.00), to Allan R. Knerr, 6507 Sedgemore Place, Fort Wayne, Indiana 46835. Such sum is to be paid through the Office of Attorney General upon execution of this Assurance.
- 12. Respondents agree to reimburse the Office of Attorney General for its costs of investigation in the amount of Eight Hundred Fifty and 00/100 Dollars (\$850.00), payable upon execution of this Assurance.
- 13. Respondents agree and consent that they will not make any representations whatsoever which would lead a reasonable person to believe that the Indiana Attorney General or any member of his staff is of the opinion that the activities and operations of the Respondents are in accordance with the laws and rules of this state or that said officials approve of or endorse such activities and operations.
- 14. Pursuant to IC 24-5-0.5-7, this Assurance is to be filed with a court having jurisdiction. The parties agree to filing in the Marion Circuit Court. Filing is to be performed by the Office of Attorney General.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, Nick Palermo, Diane Palermo, Frank Palermo, individually and doing business as Frank Palermo Auto, and Tom Harz, individually and doing business as Three Rivers Auto Paint and Supply, have signed this document on behalf of themselves, their agents, employees, successors, representatives and assigns, all of whom agree to the faithful performance of this Assurance of Voluntary Compliance, and Steven A. Taterka, Deputy Attorney General, has signed this document on behalf of the State of Indiana.

STATE OF INDIANA

4011P

RESPONDENTS

LINLEY E. PEARSON

Attorney General of Indiana

By:

Steven A. Taterka
Deputy Attorney General
Atty. No. 14160-49
Office of the Attorney General
219 State House
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204
Telephone: (317) 232-0171

Nick Palerno

Diane Palermo

Frank Palermo, individually and doing business as Frank Palermo Auto

Tom Harz, individually and doing business as Three Rivers Auto Paint and Supply

ORDERED AND APPROVED this

MAY 3 1 1991

1991

Judge, Marion Circuit Court

dayof